

REMARKS

Claims 1-72, 74-216 and 218-290 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 145 are independent claims.

By this reply, claims 1 and 145 have been amended to clarify the invention. Such amendments do not add new matter and are fully supported by the original disclosure. For example, page 3, line 31 of the specification provides examples of output devices; page 6, line 28 of the specification provides examples of presentations; page 7, line 24 of the specification provides examples of output devices; and Fig. 7 shows kinds of products.

35 U.S.C. § 103 REJECTION

Claims 1-72, 74-219 and 218-290 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guck, U.S. Patent No. 5,911,776, in view of Shaw et al. (hereinafter Shaw), U.S. Patent No. 5,881,213, and further in view of Suzuki et al. (hereinafter Suzuki), U.S. Patent No. 6,213,652, and further in view of Goertz et al. (hereinafter Goertz), U.S. patent No. 6,173,295. This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

Without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in rejecting these claims, only to clarify the invention and to expedite prosecution, independent claims 1 and 145 have been amended in accordance with the embodied invention. Applicants' embodied invention provides a system, where with one driver, a document may be delivered to multiple destinations of disparate types. An example of a dialog box for such a drive according to an embodiment of the present invention is shown in Fig. 67 and discussed on page 14, line 28+ of the specification, where a user is able to select with one and the same driver, disparate output presentations among: print, fax and archive. Accordingly, there is no need in Applicants' invention to first invoke the printer driver to have the document printed at a certain place and

thereafter start the e-mail application to deliver the document via e-mail to another recipient. Claims 1 and 145 as amended clearly require a document generator at a client's side that supports at least two disparate manners of delivering a data stream (e.g., document) across a network. As a result, by an activation of one button (e.g., a Submit button in Fig. 67), a job can be carried out with multiple tasks that deliver to multiple types of presentations (or output devices) according to the present invention.

The prior art of record, including Guck, Shaw, Suzuki and Goertz, either taken singularly or in combination, fails to teach or suggest at least the above-noted features recited in independent claims 1 and 145. There is no disclosure, anywhere in each of the applied references, of a document generator at a client's side that embeds data into the data stream indicative of at least two disparate desired output presentations, selected from hard copy print job, fax, archival and e-mail, and such document generator translating the input data stream into a data stream having an output device independent format.

Furthermore, none of Guck, Shaw, Suzuki and Goertz provides a system that realizes "an integrated solution to deliver a document to one or more different destinations or recipients, regardless of an end form which the document is presented" as recited in claims 1 and 145. In fact, in the prior art references, there is the lack of the discovery of such problem and the lack of providing an integrated solution to address the problem. If one skilled in the art is unaware of the problem, then there is clearly no reason or motivation to solve the problem, and thus, there is no motivation to combine the prior art references to render the claimed invention obvious.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that when one recognizes that a problem exists in the prior art and thereafter, solves that problem, then Applicants are entitled to a patent when the prior art fails to teach or suggest the identification of the problem as well as the solution thereof. In

re Shaffer, 108 USPQ 326 (CCPA 1956).

Accordingly, the invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 145 and their dependent claims (due to their dependency) is patentable over the applied references, and the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of record, and earnestly solicit an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

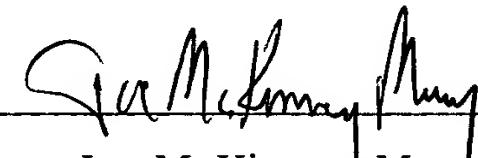
Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Reg. No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22032-0747
(703) 205-8000

KM/EHC:sld